



THE MISSION

- 01 Gabriel's Oboe 3'11
- 02 The Falls 2'27

GIUSEPPE TORNATORE SUITE

- 03 The Legend of 1900: Playing Love 1'49
- 04 Cinema Paradiso: Nostalgia 1'58
- 05 Cinema Paradiso: Looking for You 1'43
- 06 Malena: Main Theme 4'21
- 07 A Pure Formality: Main Theme 3'48

SERGIO LEONE SUITE

- 08 Once Upon a Time in America: Deborah's Theme 3'32
- 09 Once Upon a Time in America: Cockeye's Song 2'12
- 10 Once Upon a Time in America: Main Theme 1'48
- 11 Once Upon a Time in the West: Main Theme 3'21
- 12 The Good, The Bad and The Ugly: Ecstasy of Gold 3'57

BRIAN DE PALMA SUITE

- 13 Casualties of War: Main Theme 3'53
- 14 The Untouchables: Death Theme 3'10

MOSES AND MARCO POLO SUITE

- 15 Moses: Journey 2'34
- 16 Moses: Main Theme 2'06
- 17 Marco Polo: Main Theme 3'21

THE LADY CALIPH

- 18 Dinner 3'50
- 19 Nocturne 2'33

BONUS TRACKS for JAPAN

- 20 Playing Love from The Legend of 1900 1'50
(Cello & Piano version)
- 21 Gabriel's Oboe from The Mission 4'26
(Cello & Piano version)

Total time : 62'18

YO-YO MA, Cello

Roma Sinfonietta Orchestra with GILDA BUTTA, Piano
ENNIO MORRICONE

Produced by ENNIO MORRICONE

All music composed, orchestrated and conducted by ENNIO MORRICONE

Ennio Morricone would particularly like to thank Peter Gelb, Susan Duncan Smith and Mia Bongiovanni

Recorded at Forum Music Village Studios, Rome, Italy, June 16-23, 2003

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Production Consultant for Yo-Yo Ma: STEVEN EPSTEIN

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Ennio Morricone has composed scores for many films, creating some of the most beautiful and enduring music written in the last half-century. More importantly, he transformed the elusive art of film scoring, fusing an Italianate gift for melody with a bold and expressive use of avant-garde musical techniques, sounds and textures. To hear a Morricone score – whether it is the luminous meditations of *The Mission* or the gritty tension of *The Good, The Bad and The Ugly* – is not simply to appreciate the quality of the music but to be plunged into the atmosphere, the subtext and the soul of a film. No wonder that Yo-Yo Ma, after meeting and working with this legendary composer, paid him a singular compliment – “You are simply a great musician to me.”

In creating orchestrations for this recording, Ennio Morricone sought to keep his music within its original context, while weaving in a meaningful solo role for Ma’s cello. Morricone frequently uses instrumental and wordless vocal solos in his scores, and his fascinating melodies – instantly memorable but highly original in their form – lend themselves to Ma’s expressive artistry. Yet the collaboration exceeded even Morricone’s expectations. In these new treatments, Ma often has the melody but also plays in counterpoint to the melody. “One of the most beautiful things, apart from his extraordinary cleverness, is how he has been a brother to the orchestra,” the composer said of the cellist. “Despite the changes we were making, I wanted the themes to remain in the general ambience in which I wrote them. We added to the music this giant of the cello – a great and incredible soloist – and I was moved by how he created an unmistakable brotherhood with the orchestra. He is truly the new element, yet the ambience is the same.”

For Yo-Yo Ma, the collaboration revealed new depths in music he has always loved. “When I was rehearsing, I looked at the way he wrote for *The Mission*,” Ma said. “This is gorgeous music, but beauty can be deceptive, skin-deep. When I looked inside it – at the blood and the bones, the muscle and the craft of what he has written – I had this moment when I realized, ‘Oh my gosh ... *grande maestro*.’ To create so much music that is so unique and expressive – to me, it is extraordinarily moving. It goes very deep. And I can’t get it out of my head.”

When Sony Classical offered to record my music with the great cellist Yo-Yo Ma as soloist, I couldn’t believe it: indeed, it was a source of great happiness and a unique honor that will live forever in my heart as an extraordinary musical and human experience.

During the recording sessions, Yo-Yo Ma was the object of many expressions of regard and affection, not only from me but also from the Roma Sinfonietta Orchestra and all those who had the good fortune of attending his marvelous performances.

It was a unique experience from the artistic and human point of view, and I will never forget it.

– *Ennio Morricone*
from an interview – August 2004